

Application No. 10/579,991
Art Unit: 3656

Amendment
Attorney Docket No. 062550

AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS

The attached replacement sheets of drawings include changes to Fig. 1.

REMARKS

Claims 1-6 are pending in the present application. Claims 1, 2, 4/1 and 4/2 are rejected. Claim 1 and 4-6 are herein amended. New claims 7-17 are added herein. No new matter has been added.

Applicants' Response to Objections to the Drawings

The Office Action objects to Figure 1 on the grounds that since only that which is old illustrated, a legend such as "Prior Art" should be added. In response, Applicants herewith file a revised Figure 1 which includes the legend "Related Art." Favorable reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Applicants' Response to Objections to the Specification

The Office Action objects to the specification on the grounds that it includes specific claim numbers, which could change during prosecution. In response, Applicants herein amend the specification in order to remove these claim numbers. Favorable reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Applicants' Response to Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §103

Claims 1, 2, 4/1 and 4/2 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Yuasa et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,634,722) in view of Lambert (DE 199 61 225).

It is the position of the Office Action that Yuasa discloses the embodiments as claimed, with the exception of teaching a dustproof brush. The Office Action relies on Lambert to provide this teaching.

Applicants herein amend the allowable subject matter of claim 3 into claim 1. Thus, this rejection is moot.

Allowable Subject Matter

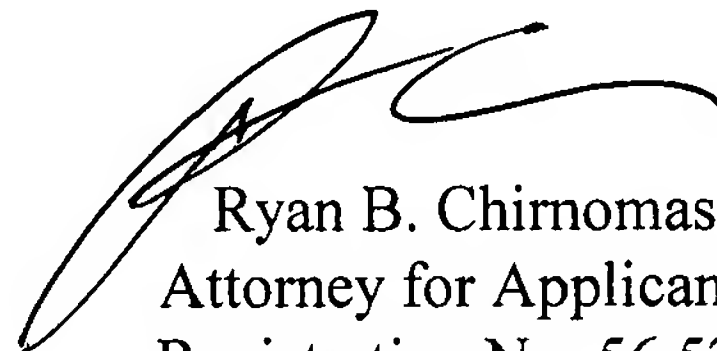
It is the position of the Office Action that claims 3, 4/3, 5 and 6 recite allowable subject matter. These claims are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim but would be allowable if rewritten independent form. As such, Applicants herein amend claim 1 in order to incorporate the allowable subject matter of claim 3. Also, Applicants revise the wording of the subject matter of claim 3 slightly in order to better comply with U.S. practice regarding "relative" language. Additionally, Applicants herein amend claims 5 and 6 to be in independent form. Finally, Applicants herein add new claims 7-14. These claims are supported at least by Figure 7 and page 16, lines 3-13.

For at least the foregoing reasons, the claimed invention distinguishes over the cited art and defines patentable subject matter. Favorable reconsideration is earnestly solicited.

If the Examiner deems that any further action by applicants would be desirable to place the application in condition for allowance, the Examiner is encouraged to telephone applicants' undersigned attorney.

If this paper is not timely filed, Applicants respectfully petition for an appropriate extension of time. The fees for such an extension or any other fees that may be due with respect to this paper may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-2866.

Respectfully submitted,
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Enclosure: Replacement Drawing Sheet included revised Fig. 1